

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. **10/564,083**
Response filed June 1, 2010
Reply to OA dated March 30, 2010

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-17 (Canceled)

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): A device for confirming a validity of result of clinical examination of a part of a subject for a clinical examination, the device comprising:

a receiving unit configured to receive present data that is clinical data of the part obtained this time and previous data that is clinical data of the part obtained last time;

a storing unit configured to store a plurality of reference patterns, the reference patterns being classified into a plurality of levels;

a selecting unit configured to select, from the reference patterns, a first reference pattern best matching with the present data and a second reference pattern best matching with the previous data;

a calculating unit configured to calculate a value indicative of a distance between a position of the first reference pattern and a position of the second reference pattern in the reference patterns arranged two-dimensionally; and

a determining unit configured to determine a validity of the present data based on the value.

Claim 19 (Original): The device according to claim 18, wherein the first reference pattern and the second reference pattern are reference patterns most closely approximate to the present data and the previous data respectively.